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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/759,635	01/12/2001	Scott J. Kurowski	68585	2245

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EXAMINER

HARRELL, ROBERT B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/759,635

Applicant(s)

KUROWSKI ET AL.

Examiner

Robert B. Harrell

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 30 DAYS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-55 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☒ Other: see attached Office Action.

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Claims 1-55 are presented for consideration.

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-6, drawn to a system for use in distributed computing comprising a task server configured to keep track of information associated with each of a multiplicity of client computers and to use the information to assign one or more tasks associated with a computing problem to each client computer, a file server configured to provide application modules to the client computers for executing their assigned tasks; and an application server configured to provide input data for the application modules to the client computers and to receive output data of the application modules from the client computers.
classified in Class 718, subclass 105.

II. Claims 7-14, drawn to a method for use in a distributed computing system, comprising the steps of providing a client program for installation on a client computer, receiving, through a computer network, information associated with the client computer that is collected by the client program installed on the client computer, using the information to assign one or more tasks associated with a computing problem to the client computer, and providing one or more application modules to the client computer for executing its assigned tasks, wherein the application modules are executable by the client program and are provided through the computer network.
classified in Class 717, subclass 178.

III. Claims 15-36, drawn to a method for use in a distributed computing system, comprising the steps of sending a request for a new task through a computer network to a first server, the request including user identification information, receiving module information from the first server through the computer network in response to the request, the module information including locator information for a second server in the computer network where a module can be obtained, redirecting to the second server using the locator information, and receiving the module from the second server through the computer network; or stated another way, a method for use in a distributed computing system, comprising the steps of receiving a request for a new task from a client through a computer network, the request including user identification information, assembling module information in response to the request, the module information including locator information indicating a location in the computer network where a module can be obtained, sending the module information to the client through the computer network, and sending the module to the client through the computer network from the location in the computer network.
classified in Class 709, subclass 201.

IV. Claims 37-43, drawn to a method of providing status information associated with a distributed computing project, comprising the steps of generating a first item of performance information for a first client computer participating in the distributed computing project, sending the first item of performance information from the first client computer

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through a computer network to a first server, receiving a second item of performance information at the first client computer from the first server through the computer network, wherein the second item of performance information is based on the first item of performance information and one or more additional items of performance information from one or more additional client computers participating in the distributed computing project, and displaying the second item of performance information on the first client computer.
classified in Class 709, subclass 224.

V. Claims 44-48, drawn to a method of providing status information associated with a distributed computing project, comprising the steps of receiving, through a computer network, performance information from a plurality of client computers participating in the distributed computing project, totaling the performance information for a subset of the plurality of client computers that are members of a first team in order to generate team performance information, and sending display data through the computer network to each of the client computers that are members of the first team, wherein the display data is configured to display status information that includes the team performance information.
classified in Class 345, subclass 736.

VI. Claims 49-55, drawn to a method for use in a distributed computing system, comprising the steps of offering an incentive for a commitment of computing time from a user's computer in the distributed computing system, providing a client program to the user for installation on the user's computer, registering the user's computer as a client in the distributed computing system, and providing the incentive to the user.
classified in Class 705, subclass 14.

2. Inventions of Group X and Group Y are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown to be separately useable. In this instant case, invention of a specific Group X has separate utility such as in an invention containing the components of Group X not used in an invention of another specific Group Y as claimed in that Group Y.

3. Also an undue burden would be placed upon examiner since the search for a specific Group X would be in that Group X's class and subclass and such a search is not required for any specific other Group Y.

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and because they have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and their recognized divergent subject matter and the search for a specific Group X is not required for the other Groups, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

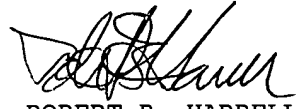
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6. The applicant is also advised that the response must be submitted to the Office within 30 calendar days.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert B. Harrell whose telephone number is (703) 305-9692. The examiner can normally be reached Monday thru Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00 pm and on weekends from 6:00 am to 12 noon Eastern Standard Time.

8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack B. Harvey, can be reached on (703) 308-9705. The fax phone numbers for the Group are (703) 746-7238 for After-Final, (703) 746-7239 for Official Papers, and (703) 746-7240 for Non-Official and Draft papers.

9. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.


ROBERT B. HARRELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2142